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C.W. Jameson, Ph.D.
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
P.O. Box 12233
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Tuesday, August 25, 1998

Dear Dr. Jameson.

National Toxicology Program "Report on Carcinogens (Ninth Edition)": Environmental Tobacco Smoke

As a reply to the National Toxicology Program's Call for Public Comments on the above, I enclose a very recent review article [1] which I consider to be highly relevant to the ETS issue. The authors conclude: "Although there is some evidence of an association with spousal smoking, the selection of data in the papers discussed misleadingly gives the impression that this relationship is stronger than it actually is. However, this evidence fails several of the criteria for causality considered important by IARC, as it does not appear to be specific to a particular histological type, the limited evidence of a dose-response relationship is subject to biases, the strength of the claimed association is implausible when compared to the very small exposure to smoke constituents from ETS, and there is no supportive animal data."

Yours faithfully

CRE Corins

C.R.E. Coggins, Ph.D., DABT

1. Lee, P.N. and A.J. Thornton, A critical commentary on views expressed by IARC in relation to environmental tobacco smoke and lung cancer. Indoor & Built Environment, 1998. 7: p. 129-145.